

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs Encyclopedia Article

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs by Walt Disney

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Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

Though criticized for the implied message that every girl needs a "prince" to rescue her, Walt Disney's first animated feature remains a classic. Debuting in 1937, the movie had a simple story line. Snow White escapes the murderous Queen and finds refuge with the Seven Dwarfs (Doc, Bashful, Sleepy, Sneezy, Happy, Grumpy, and Dopey). Learning she is alive, the Queen disguises herself and tricks Snow White into eating a poisoned apple. She apparently dies. A handsome prince, however, wakes her with a kiss. Reviewers criticized the human characters for being wooden, but the film broke ground in animation. The illusion of depth in the forrest scenes and such details as rain splashing on the ground had never been seen before. The movie proved animated features could be done and paved the way for later Disney films.

Further Reading:

Holliss, Richard, and Brian Sibley. *Walt Disney's Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs and the Making of the Classic Film*. New York, Simon & Schuster, 1987.

Krause, Martin F., and Linda Witkowski. *Walt Disney's Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. New York, Hyperion, 1994.

Maltin, Leonard. *The Disney Films*. New York, Crown Publishers, Inc. 1973.